

Treating all Languages in Eighth Schedule as Official Language

1111. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a Committee to study the feasibility of treating all 18 languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as official language;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) how long it will take to implement it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The National Commission to review the working of the Constitution has also been entrusted the task of studying the feasibility of treating all the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India as official languages of the Union.

(b) The Commission has not submitted its recommendations to the Government so far.

(c) In view of the reply to part (b) above, question does not arise.

Militant Activities in U.P.

1112. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late Uttar Pradesh is becoming one of the centres of militant activities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that police recovered twenty-seven explosives from a tailoring shop in Kanpur city during search operations in the fourth week of April, 2001; and

(c) what concrete steps are being taken by Government to meet such a challenge?

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) According to the State Government of U.P., it is not correct to state that U.P. has become a centre of militant activities. However, they have also reported that in the intensive search operation undertaken in Kanpur on 23.4.2001, explosives weighing 2 Kgs and 25 Kgs. were recovered from a factory and a tailoring shop, respectively.

(c) Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that to control anti-national/militant activities, in 22 identified districts, monthly review meetings are held by the district authorities. Divisional level meetings are also held every two months. A Special Task Force has been constituted to curb anti-national/militant activities. Uttar Pradesh-Nepal Border Police Force has also been constituted to keep a close watch on anti-national/militant activities in the area.

The Central Government shares intelligence with the State Governments and provides financial assistance for modernising the State Police Forces. Para military forces are also sent as and when required by the States.

Illegal purchase of land and infiltration

1113. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that one Eqbal Sayyed Hussain, a resident of London, who has duped the London people for 14 crores has been arrested at Thane in Maharashtra in a car having Press sticker;

(b) whether it is a fact that he has connections with Pakistani organisations who are bringing RDX to India;

(c) whether Government are also aware that he has purchased land at Shriwardhan and Mhasale in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto and what steps Government are going to take to stop such illegal purchase of land and infiltration?